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13 April 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF, EE DIVISION

SUBJECT: Scheduled airdrop to Albania -- Instructions
of the Director of Central Intelligence.

1. Referring further to our conversations of earlier today with respect to the scheduled airdrop for Albania, it is my understanding that you will ascertain from Mr. Joyce that the proposed modification of the prohibition on leaflet drops has been concurred in by the Department of State. I further understand that you will get off to the field a priority message specifying the conditions and limitations of this modification, in the clearest possible language so as to avoid confusion and the creation of an impression that the restriction on leaflet drops has been completely raised.

2. I promptly notified the Director and Mr. Dulles of the probability that the Department of State would concur in the proposed modification of the current restriction on leaflet drops -- in order to obtain their approval and put them on notice of what we are presumably about to do. The Director is most anxious that we proceed with all possible care in this particular drop operation and that we take steps to make as certain as possible that no leaflets will be dropped into Yugoslavia or other than the target country, and that the 'plane will get in and get out as quickly as possible. It is the Director's view that it would be best to go straight to the dropping point, and having made the drop return straight out of the country. Because of navigational difficulties and demonstrated inadequacies, the 'plane is not to follow a round-about or circuitous route over Albania, nor is it to ^{MAKE ANY LEAFLET DROPS} ~~make any leaflet drops~~ close to the Yugoslav frontier. (It is my view and also that of Mr. Dulles that the Director's instructions concerning the route to be flown will be complied with if the 'plane goes straight to the dropping point, makes the drop and comes straight out, even though the route going and returning is not identical. In other words, the 'plane could cross the coast or frontier at Point A and proceed directly to the dropping point, turn and come back in a direct line to Point B on the coast or frontier. The base of the triangle thus formed -- i. e. the distance from Point A to Point B -- should not be excessively wide, but it could be wide enough to avoid overflying the same ground area both going and coming.)

3. Finally, the 'plane

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3. Finally, the 'plane should avoid all cities or large centers of population in the effort to stay away from Soviet fighter 'planes which we have reason to believe are in the vicinity.

4. Will you please see to it that these instructions are incorporated with the other instructions in your outgoing message?

FRANK G. WISNER
Assistant Director for
Policy Coordination.

OPC/FGW/bjm

cc: 1 and 2 - S/EE
3 and 4 - SD/RE

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